Developing MPTs Information System & Agroforestry Models based on local knowledge in South India

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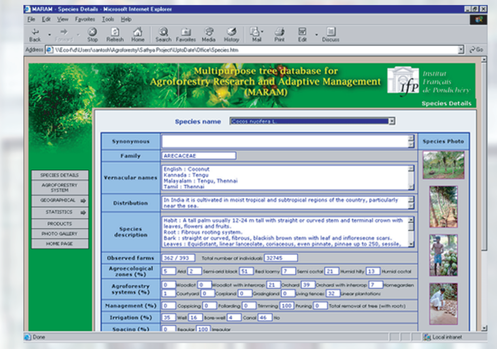

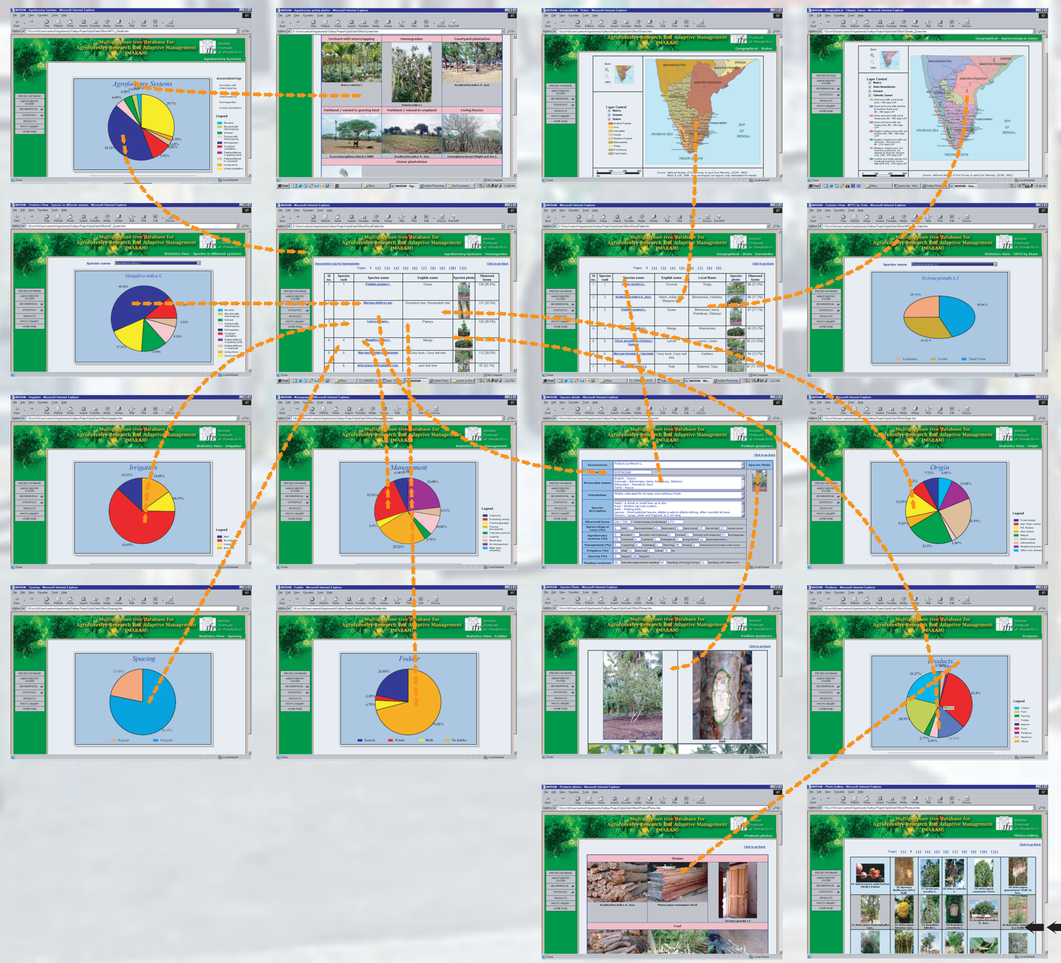

Agroforestry is an advantageous system for rural socio-economy development and micro climate improvement. A limitation of multipurpose trees (MPTs) database for developing new technologies or models to promote agro-forestry is a major constraint in South India, namely:

- o Unexplored existing MPTs at micro (farm) and macro (regional) level.
- o Very little information on dynamic and functioning of MPTs in different agro-ecological zones of South India.
- o Role of trees in improving farmer socio-economy and farm microclimate.

In order to minimise this backdrop, a comprehensive Multipurpose tree database for Agroforestry Research and Adoptive Management practices in South India (MARAM) CD ROM has several advantages:

- o It contains recorded farm tree species and their details on botanical name, local name, description, origin, distribution, practicing system, management, uses and finely photo for identification etc.
- o It contains adopted systems at farm in different agro-ecological zones (AEZ), species diversity and their uses.
- o Statistics: It contains different sub groups on farm trees managements like irrigation, spacing, regeneration, intercrop, exploitation, fodder dependency on trees etc.
- o This information system contains major usages quoted by the farmers.
- o In the map a smallest unit is a district, AEZ is moderate and state is the biggest unit and through these units one can retrieve the MPTs needed information, which are explained elsewhere.

A tool for:

- o Baseline information on farm trees, their usages and adoptive management practices in different agro-ecological zones of South India.
- o User friendly in selection of tree species that can fulfil the basic needs of researcher or stakeholder.

Applications on:

- o Enhancing the MPTs productivity
- o Sustainable management of agro-forestry systems and MPTS
- o New agro-forestry technology adaptability

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